

November 15, 2005

Listed below is a brief description of the military record of Milton Langston Adams who served in the U. S. Army from November 6, 1941 to July 26, 1946.

Was drafted through the Wilson Draft Board on November 6, 1941 and sent to the induction station at Fort Bragg. Two bus loads of Wilson boys and men were drafted on the above date. Received basic training at Fort Bragg for six weeks.

Was then sent to Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia by troop train and assigned to "B" Battery, 20th Battalion, 4th Motorized Division for further training. The 20th was equipped with four 155 Howitzer guns as basic fire power. Served with the 20th until late September 1942 when I was selected to attend U.S. Army Finance School at Duke University in Durham, N.C. Was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. December 29th, 1942 and assigned as Assistant to Post Finance Officer at Fort Story, Virginia. After a brief stay at Fort Story, was transferred to the Finance Office USA in Baltimore, Maryland.

Duties there included supervising pay and allowances section, processing and payment of officers and enlisted men, civilian pay and allowances, travel pay, etc. Approved commercial vouchers, handled cash, and assisted in the administration of the office. About 300 people worked in the office.

Late in 1943 transferred to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and served as Post Disbursing Officer for the Medical Field Service School until mid 1945. Was shipped to Camp Beale, California en route to Indochina. War ended and was returned to Baltimore for reassignment. Was assigned as Chief of Finance Branch, Unit B, Separation Center # 45, Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. Served seven months in that capacity until the rush in separating returning soldiers declined and was finally sent to Fort Meade, Maryland for more duty with troop separations. Was released from active duty in July 1946.

Memorable Moments

1. While in the hospital (flu) at Fort Bragg heard the news by radio of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

2. While stationed at Fort Gordon I entered a city bus and took a seat next to an African American lady. The driver jumped from his seat and ran back cussing at the lady for sitting next to a white man. I rose and explained that she was already seated when I boarded the bus. I thought he was about to whip us both but he finally cooled down and proceeded with his route. I stood the rest of the trip.
3. While working in the Baltimore office one of my duties was to certify vouchers for payment. One day a voucher for more than 8 million dollars came across my desk. It was to the Glen. L. Martin Co. for one B 26 Bomber.
4. While doing combat training "B" Battery had to crawl across a field in battle gear with machine gun fire 3 feet above our heads as we crawled to a ditch at the far side of the field.
5. The dropping of the atom bomb from the Enola Gay B 29 Bomber that ended the war with the Japanese.



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